

USDA and USAID Host Export Food Aid Conference.

Kansas City, MO, May 1, 2001

The Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency and Foreign Agricultural Service, in cooperation with the Agency for International Development, hosted the third Export Food Aid Conference April 10-12, 2001 in Kansas City, Mo.

This conference provided representatives from all levels of government, the agricultural industry, and others the opportunity to exchange ideas on improving export food aid processes. Expert panels discussed the present and future status of food assistance, streamlining processes in procurement and transportation, and food aid for education

The conference was open to the public and featured representatives from commodity vendors, steamship and domestic transportation lines, U.S. ports, and trade associations. Private voluntary organizations, such as CARE; Save the Children; and Catholic Relief Services were represented, as well as major industry players.

The speakers included FSA Acting Administrator James R Little; FSA Acting Deputy Administrator for Commodity Operations Alex King; and Catherine Bertini, Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Program who was

the keynote speaker. Ms Bertini discussed her agency's efforts to prevent starvation and promote long-term development projects aimed at breaking hunger and poverty cycles.

Over 400 people involved with international food aid attended the conference, and plans are currently underway to hold another Export Food Aid Conference next year in Kansas City.

The attached pictures were taken during the conference.

For more information, contact FSA's Kansas City Commodity Office Director, George Aldaya at 816 926 6301, or Kansas City Commodity Office Export Operations Division Director, Austen Merrick at 816 926 6715' or visit our



L-R:

Ms Catherine Bertini, World Food Program, United Nations

Mr. James Little, Farm Service Agency, USDA

Mr. James Firth, Farm Service Agency, USDA.

website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/daco/default.htm>

Note: Farm Service Agency (FSA) news release and media advisories are available on the Web at FSA's Home Page:
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>



Mr. Fred Sands, Bunge Lauhoff Grain Company
Ms. Terri McRae, ARC Diversified
Mr. Merle (Skip) Brown, August Trading, Inc.



Breakout Session on Product Quality



Private Voluntary Organization Panel

L-R:

Mr. Bob Bell	CARE
Mr. Joe Gerstle	Catholic Relief Services
Mr. Steve Mikkelsen	Farm Service Agency, USDA
Mr. Bob Cook	ADRA



Father Pat Tobin

Mr. George Aldaya

St. Therese Parish,
Kansas City, Mo
Farm Service Agency



Verna Garrett Farm Service Agency
Charles Boggs American President Lines



Ms Betsy Faga North American Millers Assn.
Mr. Austen Merrick Farm Service Agency



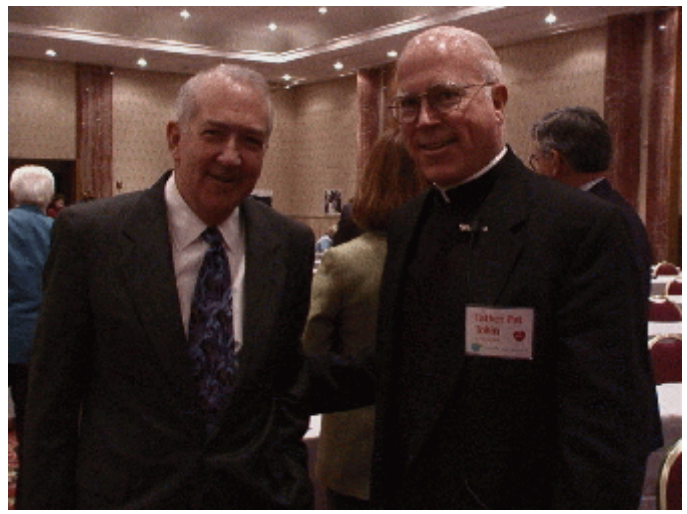
L-R:
Mr. Tom Oliver US AID
Ms. Betsy Faga North American Millers
 Association
Mr. Richard Chavez Farm Service Agency
Mr. Jerry Cornell Farm Service Agency
Mr. Nelson Randall Farm Service Agency
Mr. Jim Brainard ADM Milling Co.



Mr. K.M. Adeeb, CARE, receiving award from Mr.
Steve Miteff, Farm Service Agency.



Mr. Joe Gerstle, Catholic Relief Services, receiving
award from Mr. Steve Miteff, Farm Service Agency.



Mr. Kenneth Hackett
Father Pat Tobin

Catholic Relief Services
St. Therese Parish
Kansas City, Mo



Mr. Steve Mikkelsen
Ms. Faith Fischer

Farm Service Agency
Project Aid/Siberia